CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Miscellaneous Military Information from the Kyustendil Area 2. Air OB: Airfield at Dobroslavtsi	DATE DISTR. NO. OF PAGES	29 May 1953 2
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. In late December 1952 and early January 1953, important changes took place in the determination of specialty numbers of reserve cadres of the Bulgarian Army. Military offices effected these changes which consisted of the following: the specialty number of some reservists was changed; other reservists were promoted or had their war-assignment changed; the military booklets of a few reservists were returned without any changes. The numbers of certain specialties were changed, while several others were merged into one number (for example, drivers previously had VES-49 and mechanics had VES-50; now they both have VES-50). Certain specialties retained their old numbers (reconnaissance, VES-1; Infantry, VES-2, etc). In March 1953, a military commission registered and inspected all motor vehicles in the town of Kyustendil.

2. In late February and early March 1953, the 1933, 1934, and 1935 classes were recruited. At this time, commissions examined the remainder of the Class of 1933 (most of which had been called up for military service in November 1952), all the Class of 1934 (including school-boys and students), and the Class of 1935 (all professions, except school-boys and students).

3. On 10 February 1953, eight hundred reservists born between 1918 and 1921 were called up in Kyustendil Okoliya; a smaller number of reservists were called up on 19 and 20 February 1953. At the same time, five reservists were called up at Tsaparevo (N 41-38, E 23-05), Sveti Vrach Okoliya. Reservists who were called up individually were given sealed instructions and sent to units, while those called in groups were accompanied to their destinations. The major part of reservists are sent for a 2-month training period to operating units, while the others are given courses at schools for reserve officers and noncommissioned officers.   25X1

4. Some [   ] refugees (former members of the Democratic Army [   ] are being trained in various military schools of Bulgaria, after which they are assigned to Bulgarian Army units. These men wear officers' uniforms. Approximately 20 men are at the Tank School in Botevgrad. Others were observed in schools elsewhere.   25X1

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5. Late in 1951, a large airfield was completed at Dobroslavtsi (N 42-49, E 23-17), Sofia Okoliya, located 30 (sic) kilometers north of Sofia. In 1952, equipment for blind flying was installed at this field and the construction of hangars, underground fuel depots, barracks, taxi-ways and other buildings was completed. The Air Force 4 Fighter Division, Podelenie 25900, is now based at this field. Previously the headquarters of this division were located at an unknown base near Sofia and, in 1952, it was transferred to Dobroslavtsi. The division is composed of the following groups (Air Force regiments):

   a. The 53 (or 43) Fighter Group;

   b. The 11 Fighter Group; and

   c. The 22 Fighter Group.

   Of these, two groups are based in Dobroslavtsi and the third is at another airfield. One of the two groups at Dobroslavtsi is equipped with jet aircraft.

6. The commander of the Air Force 4 Fighter Division is an unidentified colonel. Other personnel in this unit are:

   a. Major Khadzhi Popov, political officer;

   b. Major Mirchev (fnu), section-chief in the division; and

   c. Major Dinchev (fnu), section-chief in the division.

   The division is equipped with YAK-23, YAK-27, and YAK-11 planes.[1]

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